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Item 134 of the provisional agenda*
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 2012-2013

Note by the Secretary-General

Summary

The General Assembly in part IV, paragraph 2, of its resolution 60/248, endorsed the proposal that the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) be submitted for review and approval by the Assembly on a biennial basis in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the related biennium.

In that context, and in accordance with the provisions of the statute (see resolution 39/148 H, annex, article VIII, para. 3) and the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute, the General Assembly is requested to approve a subvention in the amount of $577,800 for UNIDIR from the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013. The related provision is included under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sect. 4)).

* A/66/150.

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1. At its fifty-sixth session, the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, in its capacity as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), approved, for submission to the General Assembly, the report of the Director of the Institute on its activities for the period from August 2010 to July 2011 and the proposed programme of work and estimated resource requirements for 2011 and 2012 (see A/66/123). The present report is submitted to the Assembly in the context of its consideration of a subvention to UNIDIR for 2012-2013 from the regular budget of the United Nations. As a result of the timing of the preparation of the two reports, the financial information contained in the annexes to the present report is similar to the information included in the annexes to the report of the Director of the Institute. Updated financial information of the Institute will be provided to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions at the time of its review of the two reports.

2. In the aforementioned report of the Director of UNIDIR, the Board of Trustees recommended continuation of a subvention from the United Nations regular budget. Such a subvention is important for ensuring the independence of the Institute.

3. The proposed programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013, under section 4, Disarmament (A/66/6 (Sect. 4)), contains a provision of $577,800, representing the United Nations subvention to UNIDIR for the biennium. This amount will be subject to subsequent recosting in accordance with the established procedures.

4. Under section IV of General Assembly resolution 44/201 B, entitled "Subvention from the regular budget to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research", the Secretary-General is required to report annually to the Assembly on the situation of the Institute. In this context, the financial situation of the Institute (details of which are included in annexes I through III of the present note) may be summarized as follows:

(a) Funds available at the beginning of 2011 amounted to $1,634,000. This figure includes an amount of $322,700 required as an operating cash reserve;

(b) Total income for 2011 is estimated at $3,115,600 from the following sources: voluntary contributions and public donations ($2,747,000); interest income ($30,000); interorganization contributions ($26,300); and the subvention from the United Nations regular budget ($312,300). It is also estimated that of the total voluntary contributions and public donations, approximately 83 per cent will be used for special projects and 17 per cent for other purposes, including administrative costs;

(c) Total estimated expenditure for 2011 is $3,423,000, including a provision of $148,100 for programme support costs. Requirements for 2012 are estimated at $2,613,700 inclusive of $110,700 for programme support costs;

(d) Available funds at the beginning of 2012 are estimated at $1,229,300, inclusive of an amount of $330,600 as an operating cash reserve.

5. It would be recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 60/248, endorsed the proposal that the request for a subvention to the Institute be submitted for review and approval by the Assembly on a biennial basis in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the related biennium.

6. Accordingly, the General Assembly is requested to approve a subvention to UNIDIR of $577,800 (before recosting) from the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2012-2013, the provision for which has been included under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium.

Annex I

Income and expenditure estimates for 2011-2012

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Item	*2011 (estimates)*	*2012 (estimates)*
A. Funds available at the beginning of the year	1 634.0[a]	1 229.3[b]
B. Income:		
Voluntary contributions and public donations	2 747.0[c]	1 355.9[d]
Subvention from the United Nations regular budget	312.3	288.9[e]
Other inter-organizational contributions	26.3[c]	27.5[d]
Interest income	30.0	10.0
Total income	**3 115.6**	**1 682.3**
C. Total funds available	4 749.6	2 911.6
D. Refunds to donors	97.3[f]	
E. Expenditure	3 423.0	2 613.7
F. Fund balance at end of year	**1 229.3**	**297.9**

[a] Includes $322,700 required as an operating cash reserve for 2010.
[b] Includes $330,600 required as an operating cash reserve for 2011.
[c] See annex III for details of UNIDIR estimated income from voluntary sources for 2011.
[d] See annex III for details of UNIDIR estimated income from voluntary sources for 2012. The estimates for 2012 are conservative. Experience shows that they will be much higher but this cannot, of course, be guaranteed at the present stage.
[e] To be technically adjusted prior to the approval of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.
[f] Refund to the European Commission for the project entitled "Support for European Union activities in order to promote among third countries the process leading towards an arms trade treaty".

Annex II

Estimated resource requirements, 2011-2012

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Resource requirements	*2011[a] (estimates) (1)*	*2012[a] (estimates) (2)*	*Increase/ decrease (2-1)*
A. Direct administrative costs			
Salaries and related costs	823.6	823.6	—
General temporary assistance	—	—	—
Temporary assistance for meetings	22.7	20.5	(2.2)
Consultants' fees and travel	101.6	112.2	10.6
Ad hoc expert groups	521.0	166.0	(355.0)
Other personnel-related costs	1 317.4	1 180.5	(136.9)
Official travel of staff	126.2	62.5	(63.7)
Other external printing	3.1	1.7	(1.4)
Other specialized training	4.0	4.0	—
Contractual services	295.2	80.3	(214.9)
Hospitality	17.4	12.7	(4.7)
Premises: rental and maintenance	9.9	6.2	(3.7)
Operating expenses	7.4	7.4	—
Communications	17.1	17.1	—
Supplies and materials and furniture and equipment	8.3	8.3	—
Total A	**3 274.9**	**2 503.0**	**(771.9)**
B. Programme support costs (5 per cent of total A, less United Nations subvention)	148.1	110.7	(37.4)
Total expenditure (A + B)	**3 423.0**	**2 613.7**	**(809.3)**
C. Operating cash reserve (15 per cent of expenditure on contributions other than from the European Union, less United Nations subvention and 5 per cent on contributions from the European Union)	330.6	291.8	(38.8)
Grand total (A + B + C)	**3 753.6**	**2 905.5**	**(848.1)**

[a] These figures may be increased upon the confirmation of current funding proposals.

Annex III

Income from voluntary sources, 2011-2012

(United States dollars)

Voluntary contributions	*2011[a]*	*2012[a]*
A. Governmental contributions		
Australia	130 000	252 000
Austria	10 000	—
Canada	9 969	10 000
China	19 985	20 000
Finland	52 562	50 000
France	320 000	160 000
Germany	173 620	—
Hungary	19 711	20 000
India	10 000	10 000
Iraq	5 000	5 000
Ireland	13 089	15 000
Israel	10 000	10 000
Luxembourg	10 000	10 000
Mexico	3 000	3 000
New Zealand	10 000	—
Norway	560 000	300 000
Pakistan	5 000	5 000
Republic of Korea	30 000	30 000
Russian Federation	100 000	100 000
Switzerland	119 176	70 000
Turkey	3 000	3 000
United States of America	20 000	20 000
Subtotal A	**1 634 112**	**1 093 000**
B. Public donations		
Cultural and economic delegation of Taipei	40 000	—
European Commission	961 118	183 381
Foundation for International Relations and Development Studies	16 269	—
Fondation pour la recherche stratégique	742	—
Marie Curie Foundation	40 286	—
Northeastern University	3 500	3 500
Secure World Foundation	30 000	30 000
Simons Foundation	20 000	45 000
University for Peace	1 000	1 000
Subtotal B	**1 112 915**	**262 881**

Voluntary contributions	*2011[a]*	*2012[a]*
Total voluntary contributions (A + B)	**2 747 027**	**1 355 881**
C. Interorganization		
Office for Disarmament Affairs	26 250	27 500
Subtotal C	**26 250**	**27 500**
Total (A + B + C)	**2 773 277**	**1 383 381**

[a] These figures will be increased upon confirmation of current funding proposals.